

June 30, 2008

Dear Superintendents and Test Coordinators,

Appeals Site for AYP will open on July 1, 2008. The site will close on July 31. Please remember that we must have hard-copy of all supporting information in our office by July 31, end of business day. We will make AYP information available to public on August 7, 2008. <https://seciis.sde.state.id.us/ayp08/default.asp>

We delayed release of Preliminary AYP determination while we waited for full federal approval. We filed permission for the amendments in March 2008. I think you will be especially pleased about the freezing of the AMO targets for one additional year! See below for details.

Each year we have the opportunity to review our own accountability agreement and apply for amendments. Idaho requested 3 amendments to the Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook. USDE approved the 3 following amendments. They are all good news!

1. AYP Averaging for small schools and districts

2008 Approved Language

Within Idaho there are approximately 51 small schools that do not have a total of 34 students in the tested class levels. For those small schools, the Board and the Idaho State Department of Education (ISDE) will determine AYP using the total subgroup only and averaging the current year's Idaho State Achievement Test (ISAT) test scores plus scores from the previous two years and comparing the results to the current year's scores. The highest score will be used to determine the school's AYP. This approach rewards schools and districts for efforts that result in strong single year achievement gains and minimizes the potential for inaccurately inferring that a school or district has failed to make standards. (Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook page 2)

2. Freeze the target for proficiency for an additional year 2009.

Reading 78%, Math 70%, and LU 78 %

Approved: 2007-2009 Annual Measurable Objective Percentage Proficient Targets

	2002-03 2003-04	2004-05 2005-06	2006-07 2007-08 2008-2009	2009-10 2010-11	2011-12 2012-13	2013-14
Reading	66%	72%	78%	85%	92%	100%
Math	51%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%

Language Usage	66%	72%	78%	85%	92%	100%

3. Additional percentage added to SWD when all other targets are met

The 2008 calculation will add 21 % points when schools and districts qualify for this allowance.

As in 2006-2007, for calculating AYP for 2007-2008 Idaho will again take advantage of the additional flexibility offered for students with disabilities. Using the federal guidelines (May 10, 2005) for a transition option number 1, a proxy equivalent to two percent of the total number of students assessed will be calculated to allow an additional credit to schools or districts that miss the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets solely because of students with disabilities. This proxy percentage will be applied uniformly to all relevant schools and districts. 19 points were added in the two previous years, and in 2008 percentage 21 points will be added.

Sincerely,

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 Assessment and Accountability
 Office of the State Board of Education